DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: No Government compilation on this price..

MR. CHAIRMAN: We cannot decide by your saying. But he is saying...

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: There is a rush for privatisation. That is a fact of today's life and the order book position of the public sector companies is causing a lot of anxiety. It is known also to the Government because BEL, BHEL, Jessops, HAC, BAC; MAMC are not getting orders. It is connected with this. Will the hon. Minister say what steps he will take to see that the order books of all these public sector companies are improved so that the public sector companies are able to work with full speed?

Further, will he assure that in the international competitive biddings the price preference of 15 per cent would be maintained as it is at present?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: He is questioning about the preference of 10 per cent allowed to the public sector companies. He is now asking about the order book position of various companies.

श्री सभापति : इनका कहना है कि 10 परसेंट मिलता तो फिर ये आर्डर खाली . . . (व्यवधान) . . . क्यों रहते ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: It is the duty of our department to see that public sector undertakings get more orders everywhere.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: That is not happening.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is going to do it.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: Yes, we are doing. We are asking Mr. Vasant Sathe to give more orders to BHEL.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: The public sector is required to make heavy investments in its own sector. Will the hon. Minister increase it by another five per cent?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: No, Sir. This 10 per cent will continue.

BHEL programme to revive sick and old power plants

*185. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Corporate Research and Development Division of BHEL has launched a programme to give a new lease of life to the sick and old power plants in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the details of the sick power plants in the country and how they are proposed to be revived?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The R & D Division of BHEL has launched a programme to assess the residual life of old thermal power plants, Based on the assessment, BHEL provides a proposal for extension of the life of the power plant.

(c) With a view to improving the performance of existing thermal power stations, a programme for renovation and modernisation was launched by the Central Electricity Authority all over the country in September 1984. 34 thermal power stations comprising 162 thermal units of varying ratings are covered by this programme.

Similarly, a scheme for renovation and uprating of 49 hydro power stations in the country has been formulated by the Central Electricity Authority.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.